



Turtle & Dragonfly Programs

Monthly Meeting with talk by Bryan Windmiller Blanding's Turtle Conservation: How Citizens and Schools can Help Save Rare Species

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 7:00 PM

Learn about the effort to save the rare Blanding's turtles considered "threatened" in Massachusetts and the critical role school children and citizens can play in conserving local populations of rare species. Together with US Fish and Wildlife Service biologists, Bryan Windmiller has been researching the ecology of these turtles in the Great Meadows NWR, Concord since 2003, protecting turtle nests and raising hatchlings through their critical first year. This conservation effort has been boosted by the participation of school children and their teachers from local schools.

Bryan Windmiller is a wildlife ecologist who specializes in rare species conservation, citizen outreach and education projects. He is the founder of the ecological consulting firm, Hyla Ecological Services, Inc. and he works as an independent consultant. His recent research includes the study of a fungal disease that has caused the extinction of amphibian species worldwide.

The Friends' monthly meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, 73 Weir Hill Road in Sudbury. Each meeting starts with a brief discussion of the Refuge status, followed by our featured presentation.

The Natural History of Dragonflies

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 10 AM - 1:00 PM AT GREAT MEADOWS NWR

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 10 AM - 1:00 PM AT ASSABET RIVER NWR

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 10 AM - 1:00 PM AT OXBOW NWR

This program series will look at the life cycle, habitat, behavior, and identification of dragonflies and damselflies by family, genus, and species. Naturalist Bob Bowker will lead the lectures and field trips which will provide hands-on experience with identification and behavioral study. This class is for adults only. Requisites will be the small, but excellent book "Beginner's Guide to Dragonflies" in the Stoke's series (\$9.00 and widely available), and a pair of binoculars. Cosponsored between the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the Friends of the Oxbow NWR and the Friends of Assabet River NWR.

Fees are \$10 per session, or \$25 for the three; pre-registration is required. Please send check made out to FARNWR, and mail to Susan J. Russo, 73 Weir Hill Rd, Sudbury, MA 01776.

For the session at Great Meadows NWR, meet at NWR headquarters at 73 Weir Hill Road, for Assabet River NWR meet at Puffer Pond, for Oxbow NWR meet at the Still River Depot Rd parking lot in Harvard.

For more information, call 978-443-4661 x34 or please visit <http://www.farnwr.org> or <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/easternmanwrcomplex>

